



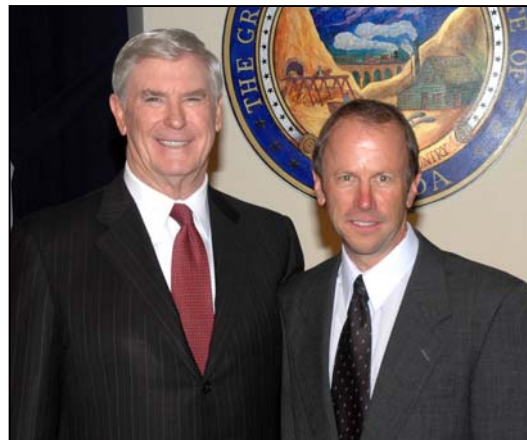
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

PURPOSE:

The mission of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is to conserve, protect, manage, and enhance the state's natural resources in order to provide the highest quality of life for Nevada's citizens and visitors.

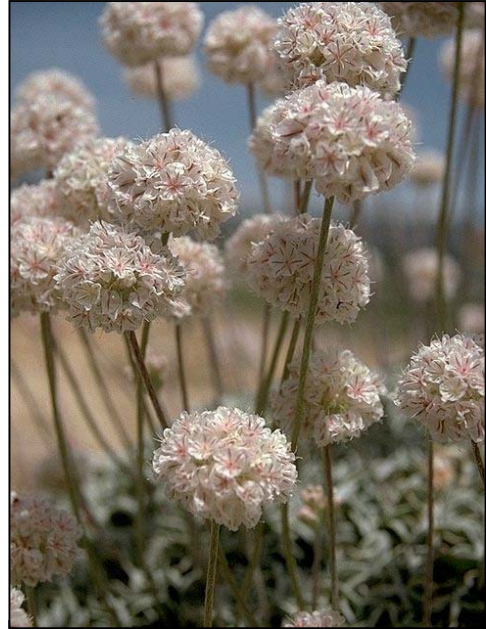


DEPARTMENT GOALS:

- Protect Nevada's air, water, land, forests, open space, and sensitive and threatened species and their habitats through enforcement of effective and equitable standards, policies, laws, and regulations.
- Provide for an effective emergency services program to protect public safety and welfare.
- Promote partnerships with federal, state, and local entities with respect to natural resource interests.
- Develop educational programs and public information services that focus on conservation and management of Nevada's natural resources.
- Encourage the development, enhancement, and promotion of Nevada's recreation resources.
- Encourage the protection and management of Nevada's cultural resources.
- Maintain environmental policies and procedures that are socially and economically responsible while encouraging business and tourism.
- Maintain a range of resource planning, inventory, and research activities.
- Promote staff development, training, and provide a safe work environment within a framework of stable funding that allows for flexibility in the administration of conservation and natural resource programs.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

The department consists of the following eight divisions overseen by the Office of the Director: Environmental Protection, Forestry, State Parks, Natural Heritage Program, State Lands, Conservation Districts, Water Resources, and Wild Horse Program. In addition, the department consists of the following twelve boards and commissions: Natural Resources Advisory Board, Water Resources Planning and Development Advisory Board, Well Driller's Advisory Board, Board to Review Petroleum Claims, State Land Use Planning Advisory Council, State Conservation Commission, State Environmental Commission, Board for Financing Water Projects, Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses, Board of Review (State Lands), California-Nevada Interstate Compact, and Columbia Basin Interstate Compact. The department also provides staff support to the Nevada Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.



Endangered Endemic Plant:

The Steamboat Buckwheat
(*Eriogonum ovalifolium* var. *williamsiae*)

Photo by James Morefield

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	NRS 232.010 - 232.110
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:	698 FTE and 200.6 Seasonal / 2004
TELEPHONE:	775.687.4360
WEB SITE ADDRESS:	www.dcnr.nv.gov



View of Lake Tahoe from Van Sickle Bi-State Park.

October 2001

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PURPOSE:

The Office of the Director provides the full scope of administrative, technical, budgetary, and supervisory support to the various divisions, boards and commissions within the department. The office directs state policy on natural resource issues to fulfill the departmental mission. The director establishes departmental missions, goals, objectives, and priorities. The director appoints division administrators and approves divisional goals, objectives, and priorities. The office provides functional guidance and support in human resources matters. The office consolidates departmental documents and coordinates departmental communications. The director is a member of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Governing Board and the office provides staff support to the Natural Resources Advisory Board. Due to the highly technical issues surrounding the management of the state's natural resources, the office is actively involved in overseeing the resolution of competing interest claims originating from private and governmental entities or stakeholders at both the federal and state level.



Bucks Beach,
Lake Tahoe.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	NRS 232.010 - 232.070
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:	13 FTE / 2004
TELEPHONE:	775.687.4360
WEB SITE ADDRESS:	www.dcnr.nv.gov

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Expand the department's capabilities in the realm of electronic data sharing, communications, and networking facilities.

ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- The development of a department web site enhanced communications and data sharing capabilities for department staff and the general public.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Preserve Nevada's primacy in all matters pertaining to natural resource management, whether under or impending litigation, including but not limited to air, water, land, flora/fauna, or waste-based issues.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Substantial progress has been made with regard to water litigation in Nevada:

- The Director's Office, in cooperation with the divisions of Water Resources, State Lands, Environmental Protection, and the Department of Wildlife, is leading the Nevada negotiating team to resolve water disputes for Walker River and Walker Lake. This mediated process is being undertaken in an effort to resolve these issues in lieu of litigation.
- The Director's Office continues to increase participation in and pursue additional funding for the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) process. This ongoing process is designed to resolve decades old water disputes on the Truckee River with the goal of allocating water to serve all of the needs of the system including agriculture, municipal, and environmental uses.
- The Director's Office continues to pursue a water allocation agreement on the Owyhee River in Northeastern Nevada. Once approved, this agreement will resolve water disputes on the river system between agricultural and tribal interests, and allow for a broader agreement between Nevada and Idaho.

GOAL OR OBJECTIVE:

Consolidate office accommodations for department divisions to a central location.

ACCOMPLISHMENT:

A central location for the department was established at 901 South Stewart Street. Construction began February 2004 and occupancy is scheduled for July 2005.



The Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources
building under construction.

Top: September 2004, front view from Stewart Street.
Right: December 2004, back view from Roon Street.
Photos by John Walker

KEY LONG-TERM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- ❏ Continue to provide leadership, managerial, and administrative support to the department divisions. Continue to provide assistance with their attainment of long-term goals and objectives.
- ❏ Preserve Nevada's primacy in all matters pertaining to natural resource management, whether under or impending litigation, including but not limited to air, water, land, flora/fauna, or waste-based issues.
- ❏ Expand the department's public information services.
- ❏ Continue to expand the department's capabilities in the realm of electronic data sharing, communications, and networking facilities.

SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE OR EXECUTIVE ACTIONS AFFECTING THE AGENCY:

AB9 of the 2001 Legislative 17th Special Session (referred to as "Q-1") was a landmark environmental initiative designed to benefit, protect, and preserve Nevada's natural resources. It authorized the state to issue general obligation bonds up to \$200 million for natural resource projects. Funds generated by the bond sales are being used to conserve valuable environmental assets as well as support recreational and cultural facilities throughout Nevada. Q-1 provides a fiscally responsible mechanism for preserving, protecting, and enhancing environmental, historical, and cultural resources across the state.



Q1 Project:
The Greil Ranch, Washoe Valley.

This conservation easement will preserve a historic working alfalfa ranch and allow continuation of the agricultural uses, while preserving 114 acres of open space and protecting critical wildlife habitat.

Left: Historic Photo by Jim Greil
Below: Photo by Jon Paul Kiel



PUBLICATIONS:

View department publications at:

www.dcnr.nv.gov